Sept. 4, 1972

Dear Hal,

Sorry for the long time between letters. Things are pretty bad here right now. I was the victim of a nice little coup myself. A handful of the Old Guarders and conservatives of the Guild managed to pack the election meeting and bingo I am now out of office as unit chairman. It was very skillfully done, even to the point of having a ringer announce and then resign before hand. One of the ring leaders even tipped me that such a move was going to take place and then said he had managed to squelch it. I'll get em in January, but that really fucks up the negotiations. It burns me that the anti-strike people are the $300 a week and over people.

I'm afraid I can't offer any help on Rife. To be Frank I don't trust my friend in Springfield, for reasons I can't go into. I can't get down there myself. I still am on the negotiating committee.

I talked briefly last week to Wecht, although I haven't done a story on it. He said he is preparing a long and very detailed report on his observations. His main conclusion is that Clark panel and Lattimer either purposely laid down the establishment line or are all incompetant, or both. By the way, he says there is a photo of the throat from the front, although it is more a side shot. I believe I remember you saying you didn't remember one. He is quite angry at Marshall. He said Marshall got "hysterical" about Wecht's comments. He predicts that some more Kennedy friends (doctors) will be drug out to try to counter his findings. He said he has received no threats at all since the publicity, which surprises me.

The latest Washingtonian magazine has interesting speculation on Martha the Mouth if you haven't seen it yet. It says that no one has seen her since the famous "political prisoner" comment, although she has talked to some locals.

I saw the LA Free press thing but have not yet found a copy of the Realist. No one seems to carry it around here any more.

I am rapidly lapsing into a hell-with-it-all mood that bothers me. Maybe I need a new romance or a long drunk or something.

I throw in a couple clips on Andreas for what they are worth. How much would it cost to have the Bremer thing copied? I could copy it here a little at a time. I'm on the 4 p.m. to midnight trick for two weeks to fill in for a vacation.

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